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Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 L-03 DHA-02 /031 W
----------005620 191821Z /43
O 191754Z JUN 77
FM USDEL GRENADA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0056

C O N F I D E N T I A L GRENADA 0050

FROM USDEL OASGA

USOAS DEL 35

FOR THE SECRETARY; FOR ARA AMB TODMAN; L/ARA WILLIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, OAS, SHUM
SUBJ: APPROACHES TO OAS CAPITALS ON US/VENEXUELA/COSTA RICA
RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. WE ARE NOW GOING INTO THE NOSE-COUNTING STAGE. COMMITTEE
I MEETS AT 10 AM JUNE 20 TO CONSIDER A VARIETY OF HUMAN
RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS. DELEGATIONS TAKING AN ACTIVE LEADERSHIP
ROLE IN FAVOR OF STRONG HUMAN RITHTS RESOLUTIONS GENERALLY
AND READY TO CO-SPONSOR AND SUPPORT OUR RESOLUTION ARE:
VENEZUELA, JAMAICA, MEXICO, AND COSTA RICA. THERE ARE DIFFERENCES
OF SUBSTANCE AND APPROACH BUT ALL OF US ARE WORKING TOGETHER
WELL.

2. DELEGATIONS WHICH ARE TAKING A LESS ACTIVE ROLE BUT ARE
STILL FIRMLY BEHIND US AND READY TO TAKE STRONG HUMAN RITHTS
STANCE ARE: THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, TRINIDAD, BARBADOS,
AND SURINAM. COLOMBIA SHOULD BE IN THIS CATEGORY AS
WELL BUT FONMIN LIEVANO'S INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE LEAVING WERE
TO KEEP WORKING TO PASS HIS OWN UNFORTUNATE RESOLUTION. THESE
INSTRUCTIONS HAVE LEFT AMB GOMEZ IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION AS
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HEAD OF DELEGATION. IN THE END, WE BELIEVE WE CAN COUNT
ON HIS SUPPORT BUT FOR THE MOMENT, HE IS STYMIED. OUR
GRAVEST CONCERN IS THAT GOMEZ WILL FEEL OBLIGATED TO TRY
TO INTRODUCE LANGUAGE ALONG LINES OF LIEVANO RESOLUTION
CRITICAL OF IAHRC AND CALLING FOR REFORM OF THE COMMISSION.
THE SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES WILL OBVIOUSLY SUPPORT STRONGLY.
FONMIN FACIO'S TATEMENT CRITICIZING IAHRC AND GENERALLY IN

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FAVOR OF THIS COURSE IS AN ADDITIONAL COMPLICATION.
UNFORTURNATELY, FONMINS OF TWO LEADING ALLIES HAVE MADE
LIFE DIFFICULT FOR THEIR OAS AMBASSADORS, WHOSE INSTINCT IS
TO SUPPORT US AND GET GOOD HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

3. IAHRC CHAIRMAN AGUILAR TOLD US YESTERDAY AT LUNCH
THAT HIS MBER ONE PRIORITY IS TO PREVENT PASSAGE OF A
RESOLUTION FINDING FAULT WITH THE COMMISSION'S WORK. HE
IS AFRAID ANY CRITICISM OF THE IAHRC IN A RESOLUTION OR
SUGGESTION IT NEEDS REFORMING WOULD GIVE THE SOUTHERN CONE
AND OTHER OFFENDERS A PRETEXT FOR REFUSING TO COOPERATE
WITH THE COMMISSION UNTIL IT HAS BEEN REFORMED. NEWEST SOUTHERN
CONE TACTIC IS TO SAY IAHRC SHOULD BE IGNORED UNTIL SAN JOSE
PACT COMES INTO FORCE AND "IMPROVED COMMISSION CAN BE
FORMED. IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF FACIO COULD BE PERSUADED
TO INSTRUCT AMBASSADOR SILVA TO RESIST LANGUAGE KNOCKING
WORK OF IAHRC OR DEMANDING ITS REFORM.

4. COUNTRIES WHOSE DELEGATIONS ARE ON THE FENCE FOR ONE
REASON OR ANOTHER ARE: HONDURAS, PANAMA, ECUADOR, BOLIVIA
PERU, HAITI AND GRENADA. DELEGATIONS LEANING AWAY FROM
THE US POSITION ARE HONDURAS, ECUADOR, BOLIVIA, AND HAITI.
DELEGATIONS LEANING TOWARD US ARE PANAMA, PERU AND GRENADA.

5. WE BELIEVE THE TIME HAS COME TO GOT TO THE CAPITALS TO
PRESS FOR SUPPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS. WE JUDGE
THAT NOT MUCH CAN BE DONE ABOUT HONDURAS (BECAUSE THE DEPUTY
MINISTER IS HERE), OR PERU (BECAUSE AMBASSADOR MARCHAND IS
ALREADY PUSHING HIS MINISTER TOWARDS MORE LIBERAL POSITIONS)
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OR GRENADA (WHICH CAN BE LEFT TO THE OTHER CARIBBEAN
DELEGATIONS.)

6. IT IS CRUCIAL, HOWEVER, THAT WE OBTAIN THE SUPPORT
OF PANAMA, ECUADOR, BOLIVA AND HAITI. WITH THESE FOUR
DELEGATIONS LINED UP BEHIND US, VENEZUELA, COSTA RICA, ETC,
WE HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF PASSING SERIES OF CONSTRUCTIVE HUMAN
RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS OR, AT MINIMUM, AVOIDING ATTACKS ON IAHRC
AND DEMANDS IT ADDRESS TERRORISM, REFORM ITSELF, ETC.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: USDEL REQUESTS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT
OUR AMBASSADORS IN PANAMA, QUITO, LA PAZ AND PORT AU PRINCE
SEEK URGENT APPOINTMENT MODAY JUNE 20 AT HIGHEST LEVELS
POSSIBLE TO REQUEST THAT HOST GOVERNMENT INSTRUCT ITS OAS
DELEGATION TO STAND WITH THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC STATES AND
SUPPORT OUR RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.

8. RESOLUTIONS AT GA REQUIRE THIRTEEN VOTES TO PASS. THERE
ARE NOW ONLY TEN DELEGATIONS ON WHICH WE CAN COUNT. THE

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SIX UNDECIDES (PANANA, HAITI, ECUADOR, BOLIVIA, PERU AND HONDURAS) ARE CRUCIAL TO GOOD OUTCOME. IF DEPARTMENT JUDGES DIRECT APPROACHES TO FOUR OF SIX CAPITALS ARE LIKELY TO BE PRODUCTIVE, PLEASE REPEAT THIS TELEGRAM AND USDEL CABLES (GRENADA 0038, 0041 0044, AND 0045) TO PANAMA, QUITO, LA PAZ, AND PORT-AU-PRINCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO APPROACH FONOFFS URGENTLY TO SEEK NOW, PRO-HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR DELEGATIONS.
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